Rupert's Land

THE DIOCESE

Some account of the first Diocese of the Church of England in the West, with a brief summary of its history, its relationship to the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land, and to the whole fabric of

The Church of England in Canada

A presentation issued in connection with the need of funds for the support of the work of the Church conducted in and through the Diocese.

1944

. . . Fundamentally the world has no need of a New Order or a New Plan, but only of an honest and courageous application of the historic Christian idea.

—From an address by General Smuts

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Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land

THE ARCHBISHOP OF RUPERT'S LAND

May 1st, 1944

Mr. R. S. Law,
Chairman,
Special Committee on Diocesan Finance,
Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Mr. Law:

During the year which has elapsed since I came to Rupert's Land, the support accorded to me in the work of this Diocese not only by the Clergy but also by laymen, has been most heartening and, to my mind, gives great promise for the future.

When, a few months ago, a financial problem presented itself, I was informed that this would be taken care of and that the only action needed from me was to appoint a lay committee to take charge of the matter. I am greatly encouraged by the way in which your committee has gone to work and desire to commend your presentation to the attention of all members of the Church in Rupert's Land. We can, with confidence, pray for Divine blessing on the campaign which is going forward under the leadership of your committee.

Faithfully your Friend and Bishop,

L. Rupert's Land

"WHEREAS this year 1943 is our year of Jubilee; AND WHEREAS the Church of England in Canada, by virtue of her noble heritage, is faced with a great responsibility and a unique opportunity today; THEREFORE, this General Synod makes solemn declaration that it approves a Programme of Advance; And to this end: calls upon our Bishops and Clergy to lead in this endeavour, Diocese by Diocese, Parish by Parish; and calls our people to a deepening of their spiritual lives and a dedication of themselves anew at this time to the strengthening and extension of the work of our Church."

Resolution of the General Synod
The Church of England in
Canada, 1943.

This pamphlet is published in connection with the need of funds in support of the work of the Church of England in Canada, conducted in and through the Diocese of Rupert's Land. The Committee in charge of that project have considered that the appeal for funds should be based on some general account of the Diocese, with which this presentation begins.

A Programme of Advance

THE enthronement of the new Archbishop of Rupert's Land in May of last year was regarded by the people of this Diocese as giving the signal for a forward movement of the Church. That event occurred during the Church's year of Jubilee in 1943, which marked the passing of fifty years since in 1893 the Church of England in Canada became an organic whole. The General Synod of the Church, in 1943, sounded the call for a Programme of Advance, in a resolution quoted on the opposite page, in which it called our people

> "to a deepening of their spiritual lives and a dedication of themselves anew at this time to the strengthening and extension of the work of our Church."

The hearts and minds of Church people throughout Canada were stirred by that message. They welcomed it because of the realization, which has steadily been growing, of the need for strengthening all that makes for Christian civilization, both in Canada and the world at large.

Look to New Archbishop for Leadership

To the people of the Prairie Provinces that call of the General Synod was especially welcome because they expected that the Church in this area would move forward under the leadership of Archbishop Sherman, when, as head of the Diocese, he also became Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land.

The call of the General Synod came with a special force to the members of the Diocese of Rupert's Land of which Archbishop Sherman had become the immediate and active head. Since his enthronement there has been a high resolve that this

Diocese shall follow and uphold his leadership; that the Church here shall play its full and effective part in the life of the community and that this Diocese shall share nobly in the tasks which are set before the Church of England in Canada.

As that resolve is implemented in Rupert's Land there will be a deepening of the spiritual life of this Diocese, and a strengthening of the force which, through the Church is here applied to life and living. That process will be effective in the inward life of the individual. It will have its outward manifestations also, one of which will be greater participation by the individual in the services and in the work of the Church, and in the financing of such work.

The Diocese and the Ecclesiastical Province

In spite of the fact that the Dioceses are the fundamental units of the organization of our Church, we, in Rupert's Land, have not always been completely conscious of the Diocese as such. For that there are sound historical reasons. One is that there is an Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land which has developed out of the original Diocese of Rupert's Land. Thus the Diocese as now constituted is one of the ten Dioceses now contained in that Province, over which the Archbishop of this Diocese presides. Then, during more than thirty of the years which have elapsed since in 1893 the Church of England in Canada became an organic whole, the head of this Diocese, besides being an Archbishop in virtue of being head of an Ecclesiastical Province, was also Primate of All Canada. Thus there developed a tendency for us to think of the Archbishop of Rupert's Land, not in relation to his particular Diocese, but in relation to his larger responsibilities.

The Diocese itself comprises the eastern part of Manitoba south of Lake Winnipeg and extending north between Lake Winnipeg and Lake Manitoba. It is bounded on the east by the Diocese of Keewatin and on the west by that of Brandon, both of which extend into the far north of Manitoba.

When Rupert's Land was founded as a Diocese in 1849, nearly one hundred years ago, it included the whole vast territory of Rupert's Land, tributary to Hudson Bay, which

Founding of the Diocese

had been granted to the Hudson's Bay Company in 1670, and which was to become part of Canada only in 1867. Prior to 1849 there had been no formal organization of the Church in this territory, although since 1820 the Red River Settlement, which contained the only permanent white population, had been ministered to by clergymen. A Hudson's Bay factor, Mr. James Leith, was impressed by the need of missionary work in this area and bequeathed £12,000 for the purpose. Just how the money could best be applied was a problem for the trustees under his will. They determined upon the founding of a Bishopric in Rupert's Land, for which they had to seek permission of the Court of Chancery in England. That permission was granted when the Hudson's Bay Company agreed to contribute £300 annually for the purpose.

Royal Letters Patent founding the See of Rupert's Land were issued by Queen Victoria in 1849. The Archbishop of Canterbury was named Metropolitan of the Diocese and the Rev. David Anderson became the first bishop. In the meantime, the Red River Settlement had its first episcopal visitation in 1844, when Bishop Mountain, of Quebec, made the arduous journey out to the West. The centenary of that event is to be appropriately celebrated this year.

Bishop Anderson administered his Diocese for fifteen years. During that time he founded missions on the shores of Hudson Bay and on the banks of the MacKenzie and Yukon Rivers. He retired in 1864, and it fell to his successor, Bishop Machray, to undertake the organization of Rupert's Land, so that missionary work could be conducted and also that the Church should be prepared for the development of the West which, by that time, could clearly be foreseen. The territory of Rupert's Land, as it was described in the Charter of the Hudson's Bay Company, became part of the Dominion of Canada in 1867, and the Province of Manitoba came into being in 1870. One of the first acts of its Legislature was to incorporate the Diocese of Rupert's Land, and another to incorporate St. John's College, which from the beginning, has been an integral part of the Church's work in this territory.

The Diocese incorporated

New Diocese Established

The territory of Rupert's Land was much too large to be administered by a single bishop if his attention was to be given both to the needs of mission work, and those of the population of Manitoba, which was commencing to grow under the expectation of railway communication with the rest of Canada. Bishop Machray accordingly arranged for three new Dioceses to be created: Moosonee, taking in most of the territory east of Manitoba, and Athabasca and Saskatchewan most of that west of Manitoba. But the ecclesiastical unity of Rupert's Land was preserved by forming the four Dioceses into the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land. Over that Province, by its constitution, the Bishop of Rupert's Land became Metropolitan, and it was provided that all the Dioceses should in future participate in the election of that bishop. All of those four Dioceses have since been altered in boundaries or in name, or have been further sub-divided.

The Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land now contains ten Dioceses stretching from western Ontario to the British Columbia boundary and from the American border to the North Pole. Within the last two decades the territory comprising the Dioceses of Moosonee and Yukon have been transferred respectively to the Dioceses of Ontario and British Columbia; and certain territory has been added through the creation of the Diocese of The Arctic.

Canadian Church becomes organic whole.

Up until 1893 Rupert's Land, first as a Diocese and later as an Ecclesiastical Province, was a separate unit in the organization of the Church, with no direct connection with the Church of England in other parts of Canada. Not only was the Archbishop of Canterbury Primate, but a large part of the financial support of the Church work in this area was contributed from England. In that year the Church of England in Canada became an organic whole when the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada (in the east) and of Rupert's Land established a General Synod. That body designated the Metropolitans of Ecclesiastical Provinces as Archbishops, and the Archbishop of Rupert's Land, as he then became, was elected Primate of All Canada. The inclusion of the word "All" in the title was

The First Primate of the Canadian Church

found necessary in order to prevent confusion with the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, in the eastern part of the country. Archbishop Machray was Primate until his death in 1904. Archbishop Matheson, who had been consecrated Coadjutor Bishop in 1903, succeeded Archbishop Machray in 1904, and five years later was elected Primate of All Canada and remained Primate until his resignation in 1930.

The Church of England in Canada thus became a completely self-governing organization, but it was to be some years yet before, by accepting complete financial responsibility for all Church work in Canada, it was to become entirely independent of assistance from outside, which, for a considerable number of years, continued to be supplied for missionary work. The General Synod established the Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada, through which now all funds for such work are subscribed. Some of those funds come into Rupert's Land, the Ecclesiastical Province, and the great Missionary Diocese of the Arctic is an especial responsibility of the M.S.C.C. But Rupert's Land as a Diocese is able to contribute substantially to Church work outside of its own boundaries, which it does through the M.S.C.C., and other organizations established by the General Synod, the General Board of Religious Education and the Council for Social Service of the Church of England in Canada.

Responsibility accepted

The Diocese of Rupert's Land thus has, and has accepted, responsibility for maintaining the general fabric and work of the Church in Canada, a responsibility recognized through contributions to the general organizations of the Church. At the same time, intimate as is its association with the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land, that association imposes no direct burden upon this Diocese as such, but rather the reverse. The Archbishop, head both of the Diocese and of the Ecclesiastical Province, has been supported by funds originally contributed for the benefit of the Church in the whole area of Rupert's Land. This Diocese contributes, not directly, but through the general organizations, to Church work carried on outside of its boundaries.

This Year's Financial Problem

While church history in Western Canada is a fascinating subject, it is possible here to present it only briefly, and it is necessary now to turn to the financial problem. It was last September that Archbishop Sherman presided for the first time over an annual Diocesan Synod and first came into official contact with the clergy and laymen of the Diocese. On that occasion the determination for an advance of the Church was fully manifested and there was ample evidence not only that the Diocese looked to its new head for strong leadership, but, also, that such leadership would be followed. It was recognized that for such leadership to be effective some reorganization of Church finance in the Diocese would be required, but it was felt then that a definite solution of the problem should not be at once attempted but should be deferred until the Archbishop and the Diocese had had a year of working together.

It was understood that the next Diocesan Synod would be in a position to discuss the general problem of Diocesan finance. In the meantime, it was determined that the parishes should accept an apportionment of expense on a basis practically corresponding to that of last year. The actual needs of the Diocese for the current year were later established by the Executive of the Synod. When it was found that $25,000 additional would be required, the Archbishop was authorized to appoint a committee to deal with the matter. A committee comprising those laymen whose names are subscribed hereto, was accordingly appointed and assumed the responsibility of presenting the situation to the Church membership of the Diocese.

$25,000 Required

It is the committee's view that its task goes well beyond meeting a temporary emergent need or simply securing a certain definite sum of money. It relates the present problem to the work of the Diocese in the years to come. For that reason it was determined:

(a) That the appeal should be widespread and extend throughout the Diocese in the hope of bringing to

every member of the Church in Rupert's Land an increased realization of the Diocese as an essential and effective unit in the Church's organization.

(b) Inasmuch as the future support and financing of the Diocese will depend on the acceptance of increased Diocesan responsibilities by the parishes, the appeal must be made in a large part through the organization and machinery of the parishes.

(c) That, nevertheless, the present appeal must be kept sufficiently separate and distinct from the ordinary problems of financing in the parishes that no danger will develop of interference with the work being done or the responsibilities which have already been accepted by individual units of the Church or their members.

Where Diocesan funds are spent

Diocesan expenditures vary in nature. In the first place, as the Diocese is an administrative unit, there are expenses for administrative work, on office quarters, on staff and on supplies, corresponding to those which in a business might be referred to as overhead expenses. There is also the ever present and pressing problem of transportation for the clergy. There are expenses for the distribution of religious literature. There are expenditures for mission work within the Diocese. There is assistance to parishes which are partly, but not completely, self-supporting. This should be extended to make provision for a certain minimum level of stipends, to cover living expenses for clergy not now adequately provided for. There is Sunday School work to be taken care of, including an extensive programme of bringing Sunday School by post to outlying districts. There is other work among young people, including provision to be made for an annual summer camp. Towards the training of young men for the clergy there are certain scholarships annually provided in St. John's College. It is desired this year also to provide against an anticipated deficiency in operating revenues of that institution. Although St. John's College has some endowments, annual fees, under conditions of the immediate present, do not make up all that is required. That fact imposes a responsibility on the Diocese, so completely has St.

John's College been identified in the past with Church work in Rupert's Land. Provision has to be made for a residence for the Archbishop, to be owned by the Diocese, as the former Bishop's Court, adjacent to St. John's Cathedral, became completely unserviceable some years ago and was demolished. It is thought desirable to take care of that expense entirely from funds to be raised this year, so as to leave Diocesan finance in future years better able to take care of other special needs that may arise from time to time. Then there are contributions to the general work of the Church in Canada, amounts of which are stipulated in apportionments made by the General Synod, and accepted by the representatives of the different Dioceses. The total amount of such apportionments must be increased from year to year if the work of the Church is to be advanced. It is also to be hoped that they can be exceeded by actual contributions, for the opportunities of Church work constantly outstrip the means for carrying on such work.

General Work of the Church in Canada

Responsibility for planning these different phases of Church work and the allocation of funds for various purposes, rests primarily with the Synod of the Diocese. Between its meetings the responsibility is with the Executive of the Diocese under the leadership of the Archbishop.

Responsibility for raising the funds to make such work possible appears to rest primarily upon the parish organizations, under the leadership of the rectors, wardens and members of the vestries. These men are constantly called on to consider not only the immediate needs of their own parishes, but also the needs of the Church in the wider sphere outside of their own boundaries. But in a very special sense the responsibility of the financial needs of the Church rests upon the whole membership and upon each individual member.

Appeal is to each Church Member

The committee of laymen in charge of the present project is now presenting an immediate need to the individual lay members of the Church in this Diocese.

For all the various purposes above described, there should be provided from the Diocese of Rupert's Land within the

year 1944, a total amount of $51,765.00. Of this amount, $25,000.00 is yet to be provided. Provision already made includes something less than $5,000.00 available from various endowments which have been made for Church work in the past. While the revenue from this source has never been large, it must be mentioned that under present conditions, with interest rates declining, less reliance can be placed upon income from investments than in the past. Another amount of $21,765.00 will accrue from apportionments which have already been accepted by different parishes. This, for the most part, will be contributed on the envelope system, through the red side of the envelopes. It now remains to secure the additional $25,000.00 which is required. This is a request to all members of the Church in Rupert's Land to participate in raising that amount.

How to Contribute

Contributions to the fund may be made directly or through the parishes. For direct contributions cheques should be made out to:

"The Diocese of Rupert's Land Special Fund."

They should be addressed to:

The Treasurer,
Diocese of Rupert's Land Special Fund,
Trinity Hall,
Graham Avenue,
Winnipeg, Man.

A form to be filled in, and a special addressed envelope, are enclosed with this pamphlet.

When cash is enclosed in the envelope it will be better to place it in the ordinary Church collection, when the wardens will see to forwarding it.

The form should be completed with the name of the contributor's parish, so each contribution can be credited to the appropriate parish.

These contributions can be deducted from assessable income in calculating Income Tax.

Receipts will be issued by the Treasurer to be used in claiming Income Tax deduction.

This pamphlet has been issued by the special committee on finances of the Diocese of Rupert's Land. In order to make this campaign possible, the cost of this pamphlet has been defrayed by some friends of the Diocese.

R. S. LAW
Chairman

S. E. RAE
Vice-Chairman

E. JONES
Treasurer of Committee,
Bank of Montreal, Winnipeg

A. E. HOSKIN, K.C.
Chancellor of the Diocese

H. E. SELLERS

C. D. SHEPARD

L. K. JOHNSON

A. L. DENISON

H. L. GRIFFIN
Secretary

800 Hamilton Building,
Winnipeg, Man.,

May, 1944.